

TEACCH Autism Program
Basics of Structured TEACCHing Training

Problem Solving in the Community – IAN

Ian is a 7 year-old boy with an autism spectrum disorder who is currently nonverbal. He is very active and will only attend to activities for a few minutes at a time. When going to new places, Ian likes to explore his surroundings thoroughly and will often go into offices and other spaces that are not intended for the public. If Ian is told “no” or “stop,” he becomes very upset and is likely to be aggressive towards himself and others. Ian generally needs the concreteness of physical objects to understand what is expected of him. He primarily uses an object schedule at home but can understand some photographs.

You are planning to take Ian to a children’s museum that has both outside and inside exhibits. Outside exhibits include farm animals, a musical play area, and a train. Inside exhibits include a bubble and ball play area, an aerospace exhibit, and a tree house. A restricted science lab is located near the bubble and ball area, which is his favorite activity at the museum. The museum has a gift shop in the entryway and several sets of bathrooms throughout the building.

Please discuss with your group a plan for helping Ian be successful at the museum. Please design a system to help him understand where he is going and what he will do at the museum, along with a strategy to deal with his tendency to wander.